AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as set forth below.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) A program product stored in a computer readable medium that permits a computer to implement the following steps of:

a specification analysis step of analyzing a specification, so as to obtain a number of words for preferred embodiment and a number of words of claims;

a patent value calculation step of calculating a patent value using the following formula:

{the number of words for preferred embodiment/the number of words for claims}; and

a patent value output step of outputting said patent value.

4. (Previously presented) A program product stored in a computer readable medium that permits a computer to implement the following steps of:

an element obtaining step of obtaining elements based on a specific letter string in a specification;

a specification analysis step of analyzing said specification so as to obtain the smallest number of elements composing one claim;

a patent value calculation step of calculating a patent value using the smallest number of the elements composing one claim obtained by the specification analysis step, as a parameter; and

a patent value output step of outputting said patent value.

5. (Currently amended) A program product stored in a computer readable medium that permits a computer to implement the following steps of:

~~a specification analysis step of analyzing a specification so as to obtain a depth of claim nesting level;~~

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<u>a parent claim number obtainment step of obtaining a parent claim number of each of claims;</u>

<u>a parent-dependent relationship information obtainment step of obtaining information of parent-dependent relationships between the claims</u>

<u>a claim hierarchy obtainment step of obtaining a claim hierarchy that relates the claim number and the parent claim number;</u>

<u>a nesting level obtainment step of obtaining a nesting level that is the deepest level of the claim hierarchy;</u>

a patent value calculation step of calculating a patent value using the ~~depth of claim~~ <u>nesting level</u> ~~or the number of claim categories obtained in said specification analysis step,~~ as a parameter <u>so that the deeper the nesting level the higher the patent value</u>; and

a patent value output step of outputting said patent value.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) A data processing device comprising:

a MPU including a specification analyzer for analyzing a specification and a patent value calculator for calculating a patent value based on the following formula:
{a number of words for preferred embodiment/number of words for claims}; and
a printer or a display for outputting said patent value.

9. (Previously presented) A data processing device comprising:

a MPU including an element obtaining means for obtaining elements based on a specific letter string, a specification analyzer for analyzing a specification so as to obtain a smallest number of elements composing one claim and a patent value calculator for calculating a patent value using

the smallest number of elements composing one claim obtained in the specification analyzer, as a

parameter; and

a printer or display for outputting said patent value.

10. (Currently amended) A data processing device comprising:

~~a specification analyzer for analyzing a specification so as to obtain a depth of claim nesting level or a number of claim categories;~~

a parent claim number obtainment unit which obtains a parent claim number of each of claims;

a parent-dependent relationship information obtainment unit which obtains information of parent-dependent relationships between the claims

a claim hierarchy obtainment unit which obtains a claim hierarchy that relates the claim number and the parent claim number;

a nesting level obtainment which obtains a nesting level that is the deepest level of the claim hierarchy;

a patent value calculator for calculating a patent value using the ~~depth of claim~~ nesting level ~~obtained in the specification analyzer,~~ as a parameter so that the deeper the nesting level the higher the patent value; and

a patent value output means for outputting said patent value.

11. (Previously presented) A method implemented by a computer comprising the following steps of:

a specification analysis step of analyzing a specification in the computer, so as to obtain a number of words for preferred embodiment and a number of words of claims;

a patent value calculation step of calculating a patent value using the following formula in the computer:

{the number of words for preferred embodiment/the number of words for claims}; and

a patent value output step of outputting said patent value.

12. (Previously presented) A method implemented by a computer comprising the following steps of:

an element obtaining step of obtaining element based on a specific letter string by the computer;

a specification analysis step of analyzing a specification by the computer so as to obtain the smallest number of elements composing one claim;

a patent value calculation step of calculating a patent value using the smallest number of elements composing one claim obtained in the specification analysis step carried out in the computer, as a parameter; and

a patent value output step of outputting said patent value from the computer.

13. (Currently amended) A method implemented by a computer comprising the following steps of:

~~a specification analysis step of analyzing a specification in the computer so as to obtain a depth of claim nesting level or a number of claim categories;~~

a parent claim number obtainment step of obtaining a parent claim number of each of claims;

a parent-dependent relationship information obtainment step of obtaining information of parent-dependent relationships between the claims

a claim hierarchy obtainment step of obtaining a claim hierarchy that relates the claim number and the parent claim number;

a nesting level obtainment step of obtaining a nesting level that is the deepest level of the claim hierarchy;

a patent value calculation step of calculating a patent value using the ~~depth of claim~~ nesting level ~~obtained in said specification analysis step carried out by the computer,~~ as a parameter so that the deeper the nesting level the higher the patent value; and

a patent value output step of outputting said patent value from the computer.

14. - 16. (Canceled)